

wherein outer surfaces of said covers and outer surfaces of the upper cage and the lower cage are connected to each other without a difference in level between the surfaces.

29. (New) A double-deck elevator according to claim 28, wherein said covers are connected to at least one of the upper cage and the lower cage by means of an elastic member for absorbing a distance change between the upper cage and the lower cage.

30. (New) A double-deck elevator according to claim 28, further comprising a catching plate for catching objects dropped through a clearance between a doorside inner wall of the hoistway and the upper cage, wherein:

said catching plate is capable of swinging about a horizontal axis between a first position in which a distal end thereof contacts a doorside inner wall of the hoistway and a second position in which the distal end retracts from the doorside inner wall; and

said catching plate being in the second position and the doorside cover for guiding an air flow flowing along the doorside cover.

31. (New) A double-deck elevator according to claim 28, wherein said covers are provided with a plurality of protrusions on outer surfaces thereof for guiding an airflow flowing along the outer surfaces thereof.

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32. (New) A double-deck elevator according to claim 28, further comprising:
an upper airflow guiding member arranged above the upper cage for guiding an airflow into clearances between inner walls of the hoistway and outer side surfaces of the upper cage;
a lower airflow guiding member arranged below the lower cage for guiding an airflow into clearances between inner walls of the hoistway and outer side surfaces of the lower cage; and
said upper and lower airflow guiding members being formed in a form of a capsule, respectively.

33. (New) a double-deck elevator according to claim 32, further comprising noise absorbing members attached to at least one of the inner surfaces of the covers and the upper and lower airflow guiding members.

34. (New) A double-deck elevator according to claim 32, further comprising:
an upper airflow guiding cone arranged on the upper air flow guiding member for guiding an airflow to the outer surfaces of the upper airflow guiding member; and
a lower airflow guiding cone arranged below the lower airflow guiding member for guiding an airflow to the outer surfaces of the lower airflow guiding member.

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